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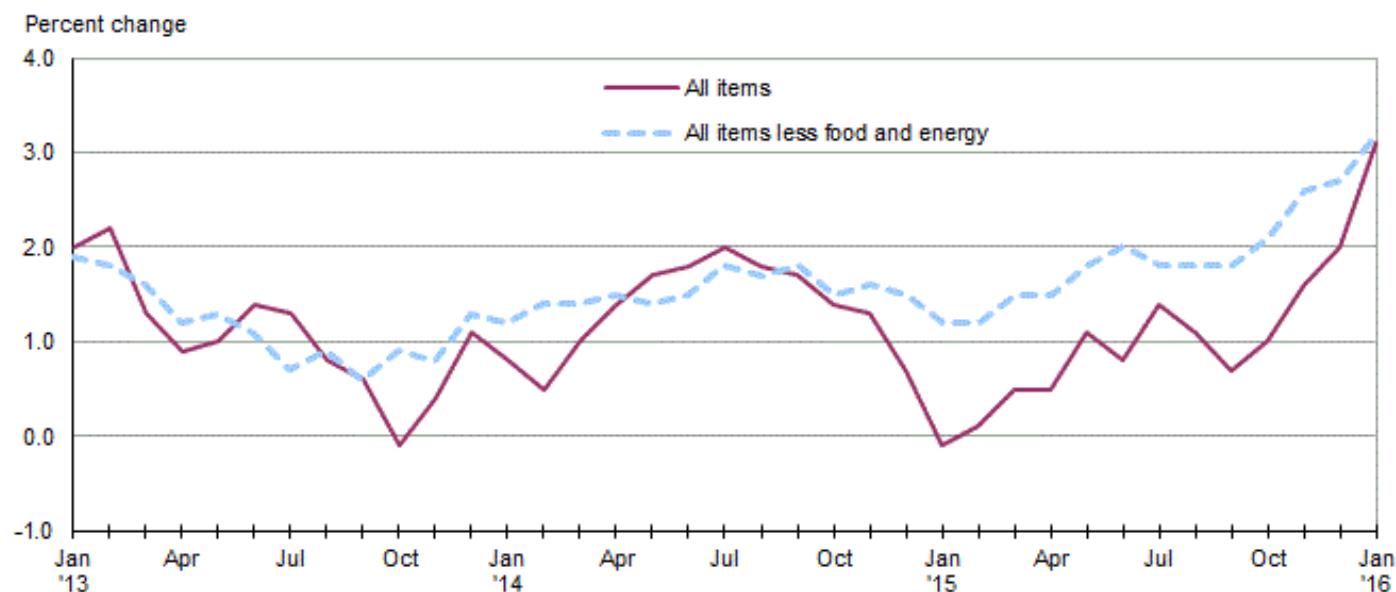
Consumer Price Index, Los Angeles area — January 2016

Area prices were up 0.7 percent over the past month, up 3.1 percent from a year ago

Prices in the Los Angeles area, as measured by the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), increased 0.7 percent in January, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. (See [table A](#).) Regional Commissioner Richard J. Holden noted that the January increase was influenced by higher prices for shelter and food. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect seasonal influences.)

Over the last 12 months, the CPI-U increased 3.1 percent. The last time the CPI-U increased by more than 2.5 percent for a 12-month period was in October 2012. (See [chart 1](#) and [table A](#).) Energy prices rose 7.0 percent, largely the result of an increase in the price of gasoline. The index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.2 percent over the year. (See [table 1](#).)

Chart 1. Over-the-year percent change in CPI-U, Los Angeles, January 2013–January 2016



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Food

Food prices advanced 0.9 percent for the month of January. (See [table 1](#).) Prices for food away from home moved up 1.1 percent, and prices for food at home increased 0.8 percent for the same period.

Over the year, food prices rose 1.2 percent. Prices for food away from home advanced 3.9 percent percent since a year ago, but prices for food at home decreased 0.7 percent.

Energy

The energy index increased 1.9 percent over the month. The increase was mainly due to higher prices for gasoline (2.4 percent). Prices for electricity rose 1.7 percent, and prices for natural gas service moved up 0.2 percent for the same period.

Energy prices rose 7.0 percent over the year, largely due to higher prices for gasoline (14.1 percent). Prices paid for electricity decreased 1.6 percent, and prices for natural gas service declined 1.3 percent during the past year.

All items less food and energy

The index for all items less food and energy rose 0.6 percent in January. Prices increased for apparel (2.4 percent), recreation (2.1 percent), and shelter (0.6 percent).

Over the year, the index for all items less food and energy advanced 3.2 percent. Components contributing to the increase included recreation (6.5 percent), medical care (5.0 percent), and shelter (4.0 percent).

Table A. Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County CPI-U monthly and annual percent changes (not seasonally adjusted)

Month	2011		2012		2013		2014		2015		2016	
	Monthly	Annual										
January.....	0.9	1.8	0.8	2.1	0.8	2.0	0.5	0.8	-0.3	-0.1	0.7	3.1
February.....	0.5	2.3	0.5	2.1	0.7	2.2	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.1		
March.....	1.1	3.0	1.0	2.0	0.1	1.3	0.6	1.0	1.0	0.5		
April.....	0.5	3.3	0.0	1.5	-0.4	0.9	0.0	1.4	-0.1	0.5		
May.....	0.0	3.1	0.1	1.6	0.1	1.0	0.4	1.7	1.0	1.1		
June.....	-0.4	2.9	-0.4	1.6	-0.1	1.4	0.1	1.8	-0.3	0.8		
July.....	-0.4	2.4	-0.1	1.9	-0.1	1.3	0.1	2.0	0.7	1.4		
August.....	0.2	2.4	0.6	2.3	0.1	0.8	-0.1	1.8	-0.3	1.1		
September.....	0.5	3.1	0.4	2.2	0.2	0.6	0.0	1.7	-0.4	0.7		
October.....	0.0	2.8	0.8	3.0	0.1	-0.1	-0.1	1.4	0.2	1.0		
November.....	-0.1	3.0	-1.0	2.1	-0.5	0.4	-0.7	1.3	0.0	1.6		
December.....	-0.5	2.2	-0.7	1.9	0.0	1.1	-0.5	0.7	-0.1	2.0		

The February 2016 Consumer Price Index for the Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County is scheduled to be released on March 16, 2016.

Technical Note

The Consumer Price Index (CPI) is a measure of the average change in prices over time in a fixed market basket of goods and services. The Bureau of Labor Statistics publishes CPIs for two population groups: (1) a CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) which covers approximately 89 percent of the total population and (2) a CPI for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers (CPI-W) which covers 28 percent of the total population. The CPI-U includes, in addition to wage earners and clerical workers, groups such as professional, managerial, and technical workers, the self-employed, short-term workers, the unemployed, and retirees and others not in the labor force.

The CPI is based on prices of food, clothing, shelter, and fuels, transportation fares, charges for doctors' and dentists' services, drugs, and the other goods and services that people buy for day-to-day living. Each month, prices are collected in 87 urban areas across the country from about 6,000 housing units and approximately 24,000 retail establishments--department stores, supermarkets, hospitals, filling stations, and other types of stores and service establishments. All taxes directly associated with the purchase and use of items are included in the index.

The index measures price changes from a designated reference date (1982-84) that equals 100.0. An increase of 16.5 percent, for example, is shown as 116.5. This change can also be expressed in dollars as follows: the price of a base period "market basket" of goods and services in the CPI has risen from \$10 in 1982-84 to \$11.65. For further details see the CPI home page on the Internet at www.bls.gov/cpi and the BLS Handbook of Methods, Chapter 17, The Consumer Price Index, available on the Internet at www.bls.gov/opub/hom/homch17_a.htm.

In calculating the index, price changes for the various items in each location are averaged together with weights that represent their importance in the spending of the appropriate population group. Local data are then combined to obtain a U.S. city average. Because the sample size of a local area is smaller, the local area index is subject to substantially more sampling and other measurement error than the national index. In addition, local indexes are not adjusted for seasonal influences. As a result, local area indexes show greater volatility than the national index, although their long-term trends are quite similar. **NOTE:Area indexes do not measure differences in the level of prices between cities; they only measure the average change in prices for each area since the base period.**

The Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA. metropolitan area covered in this release is comprised of Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, and Ventura Counties in the State of California.

Information in this release will be made available to sensory impaired individuals upon request. Voice phone: (202) 691-5200; Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339.

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted)

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015
Expenditure category						
All items.....	245.711	245.357	247.155	3.1	0.6	0.7
All items (1967=100).....	725.941	724.893	730.207	-	-	-
Food and beverages.....	251.700	249.752	251.903	1.2	0.1	0.9
Food.....	251.968	249.838	252.083	1.2	0.0	0.9
Food at home.....	260.238	256.077	258.072	-0.7	-0.8	0.8
Food away from home.....	237.921	238.404	240.923	3.9	1.3	1.1
Alcoholic beverages.....	233.316	233.690	234.369	1.2	0.5	0.3
Housing.....	269.198	270.386	272.241	3.3	1.1	0.7
Shelter.....	306.503	307.810	309.527	4.0	1.0	0.6
Rent of primary residence ⁽¹⁾	321.865	323.270	324.583	4.3	0.8	0.4
Owners' equiv. rent of residences ^{(1) (2)}	318.506	320.073	321.183	3.8	0.8	0.3
Owners' equiv. rent of primary residence ^{(1) (2)}	318.482	320.054	321.164	3.8	0.8	0.3
Fuels and utilities.....	291.090	290.880	294.663	-0.6	1.2	1.3
Household energy.....	256.173	256.045	259.428	-1.4	1.3	1.3
Energy services ⁽¹⁾	254.962	254.881	258.261	-1.5	1.3	1.3
Electricity ⁽¹⁾	300.925	296.080	301.034	-1.6	0.0	1.7
Utility (piped) gas service ⁽¹⁾	196.124	204.688	205.093	-1.3	4.6	0.2
Household furnishings and operations.....	114.359	115.587	117.049	0.7	2.4	1.3
Apparel.....	110.747	106.662	109.239	1.3	-1.4	2.4
Transportation.....	192.619	191.681	192.534	4.6	0.0	0.4
Private transportation.....	186.873	186.458	187.604	5.0	0.4	0.6
Motor fuel.....	219.830	218.367	223.372	13.9	1.6	2.3
Gasoline (all types).....	215.129	213.709	218.785	14.1	1.7	2.4
Gasoline, unleaded regular ⁽³⁾	215.431	214.090	219.173	14.3	1.7	2.4
Gasoline, unleaded midgrade ^{(3) (4)}	206.756	204.578	209.295	13.3	1.2	2.3
Gasoline, unleaded premium ⁽³⁾	205.609	204.270	208.928	13.4	1.6	2.3
Medical care.....	443.047	443.162	445.247	5.0	0.5	0.5
Recreation ⁽⁵⁾	106.536	106.622	108.878	6.5	2.2	2.1
Education and communication ⁽⁵⁾	147.079	146.643	146.789	1.1	-0.2	0.1
Other goods and services.....	391.758	390.022	390.459	2.0	-0.3	0.1
Commodity and service group						
All items.....	245.711	245.357	247.155	3.1	0.6	0.7
Commodities.....	174.412	173.172	175.053	1.8	0.4	1.1
Commodities less food & beverages.....	134.043	133.158	134.833	2.3	0.6	1.3
Nondurables less food & beverages.....	173.450	171.621	174.709	4.6	0.7	1.8
Durables.....	95.469	95.479	95.761	-1.3	0.3	0.3
Services.....	309.048	309.571	311.291	3.8	0.7	0.6
Special aggregate indexes						
All items less medical care.....	237.112	236.745	238.525	3.0	0.6	0.8
All items less shelter.....	219.247	218.173	220.019	2.6	0.4	0.8
Commodities less food.....	138.314	137.462	139.132	2.3	0.6	1.2
Nondurables.....	213.329	211.415	214.140	2.7	0.4	1.3
Nondurables less food.....	179.029	177.323	180.331	4.3	0.7	1.7
Services less rent of shelter ⁽²⁾	321.475	320.856	322.629	3.6	0.4	0.6
Services less medical care services.....	297.471	297.997	299.771	3.7	0.8	0.6
Energy.....	234.598	233.640	238.041	7.0	1.5	1.9

Table 1. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U): Indexes and percent changes for selected periods Los Angeles-Riverside-Orange County, CA (1982-84=100 unless otherwise noted) - Continued

Item and Group	Indexes			Percent change from-		
	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015	Jan. 2016	Jan. 2015	Nov. 2015	Dec. 2015
All items less energy.....	248.417	248.104	249.720	2.8	0.5	0.7
All items less food and energy.....	248.120	248.140	249.652	3.2	0.6	0.6

(¹) This index series was calculated using a Laspeyres estimator. All other item stratum index series were calculated using a geometric means estimator.

(²) Index is on a December 1982=100 base.

(³) Special index based on a substantially smaller sample.

(⁴) Indexes on a December 1993=100 base.

(⁵) Indexes on a December 1997=100 base.

- Data not available

NOTE: Index applies to a month as a whole, not to any specific date.